

CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION



PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Linda White
California Postsecondary Education Commission
1303 J Street, Suite 500
Sacramento, California 95814-2938
(916) 322-7984
lwhite@cpec.ca.gov

Commission Awards \$720,210 Grant to San Diego State University and City Heights Collaborative/Hoover High School

February 2004 --- San Diego State University will receive a three-year grant of \$720,210 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching and learning. Designed to focus on the needs of at-risk English learner's abilities to achieve success in science, the project will endeavor to engage science teachers in better understanding the needs of these students and addressing them through practical field experience.

The project is a partnership among the Aquatic Adventures Science Education Foundation, the University of San Diego, the San Diego Natural History Museum and the WildCoast Non-Profit Organization. Unique in its project goals, this effort includes active participation of high school students in activities such as providing workshops with science educators for prospective teachers and spending extended time away from the classroom on directed research projects at the field stations in Bahia de Los Angeles.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$10 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at www.cpec.ca.gov. Regarding this program, you may contact Donna Ross, San Diego State University, at 619-594-6129; or Ian Pumpian, City Heights Educational Collaborative/Hoover High School, at 619-594-7179.